

mention the sense of pride that comes with having a place to call their own.

That sense of pride overflows to the way people invest in their communities, and we all benefit from a more engaged neighbor. As they know better than anyone and Sir Winston Churchill once said, “We shape our dwellings, and afterwards our dwellings shape us.”

When the times are good or times are tough and through the general cyclical nature of the industry, NAHB has remained a steady advocate for the importance of affordable and quality housing, both for homeowners and renters. Thanks in part to them, builders and consumers are back up on their feet.

I am grateful for their commitment to serving our Nation by building safe and beautiful homes, and I am grateful for the 75 years of advocacy from NAHB.

Congratulations again on achieving this major milestone.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA GRIZZLIES SOFTBALL TEAM

• Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, this week, I have the distinct honor of recognizing the University of Montana Grizzlies softball team for their outstanding performance at the Big Sky Conference softball tournament. This team has come a long way in a short time, and their journey this season is something that all Montanans can appreciate.

Last week at Ogden, UT, the Grizzlies won the Big Sky Conference softball championship for the first time in the school's history. This accomplishment is highlighted by the fact that the softball program is only in its third year on campus. Four years ago, there was no team or coach; today they are conference champions.

Jamie Pinkerton, the Grizzlies' coach, was also voted the Big Sky Conference “Coach of the Year” for the second year in a row.

As conference champions, the Grizzlies will represent Big Sky in the 2017 NCAA Division I softball championship this Friday as they travel to Washington to challenge the Huskies in the regional qualifying round. The Grizzlies will have both the Big Sky State and the Big Sky Conference rooting for them. •

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:06 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 510. An act to establish a system for integration of Rapid DNA instruments for use by law enforcement to reduce violent

crime and reduce the current DNA analysis backlog.

H.R. 1428. An act to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to authorize COPS grantees to use grant funds to hire veterans as career law enforcement officers, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1616. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize the National Computer Forensics Institute, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 510. An act to establish a system for integration of Rapid DNA instruments for use by law enforcement to reduce violent crime and reduce the current DNA analysis backlog; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 1428. An act to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to authorize COPS grantees to use grant funds to hire veterans as career law enforcement officers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 1616. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize the National Computer Forensics Institute, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

PRIVILEGED NOMINATION REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

On request by Senator FEINSTEIN, under the authority of S. Res. 116, 112th Congress, the following nomination was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

Stephen Elliott Boyd, of Alabama, to be an Assistant Attorney General, vice Peter Joseph Kadzik.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-1571. A communication from the Director, National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Competitive and Noncompetitive Non-formula Federal Assistance Programs—General Award Administrative Provisions and Specific Administrative Provisions” (RIN0524-AA69) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 15, 2017; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1572. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting the report of twenty-six (26) officers authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of major general or brigadier general, as indicated, in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1573. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General James K. McLaughlin, United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1574. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the continuation of

the national emergency that was originally declared in Executive Order 13611 of May 16, 2012, with respect to Yemen; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1575. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the continuation of the national emergency that was originally declared in Executive Order 13667 of May 12, 2014, with respect to the Central African Republic; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1576. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the continuation of the national emergency that was originally declared in Executive Order 13338 of May 11, 2004, with respect to the blocking of property of certain persons and prohibition of exportation and re-exportation of certain goods to Syria; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1577. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the stabilization of Iraq that was declared in Executive Order 13303 of May 22, 2003; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1578. A communication from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “Department of Energy Activities Relating to the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, Fiscal Year 2016”; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1579. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel, General Law, Ethics, and Regulation, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, two (2) reports relative to vacancies in the Department of the Treasury, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 4, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1580. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Distribution of Stock and Securities of a Controlled Corporation” (Rev. Rul. 2017-09) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 9, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1581. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Syndicated Conservation Easement Transactions Identified in Notice 2017-10” (Notice 2017-29) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 9, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1582. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Extension of Eligibility Rule Waivers for Certain Automatic Changes Made To Comply with the Final Tangible Property Regulations” (Rev. Proc. 2017-36) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 9, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1583. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “2018 Sec. 223 Inflation-Adjusted Item” (Rev. Proc. 2017-37) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 9, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1584. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the